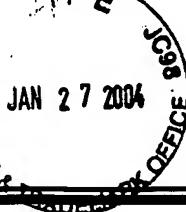


*Image RCE*

**REQUEST FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for the continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

JAN 27 2004



Application Number	10/053,712
Filing Date	January 24, 2002
First Named Inventor	YAMAUCHI, Tsunenori
Group Art Unit	2812
Name of Examiner	C.W. Lattin
Attorney Docket No.	020076

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Note: 37 C.F.R. §1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. §1.53 (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar 20, 2000) 1233 Off. Gazette Pat

**1. Submission Required Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

- a.  Previously submitted
  - i.  Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)
  - ii.  Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
  - iii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b.  Enclosed
  - i.  Amendment/Reply (Preliminary Amendment)
  - ii.  Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
  - iii.  Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
  - iv.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Miscellaneous**

- a.  Suspension of Action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. §1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months (period shall not exceed three months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) required)
- b.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. §1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a.  The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340
  - i.  RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (e)
  - ii.  Extension of Time Fe (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
  - iii.  Other: Any required f es not included herewith.
- b.  Ch ck in the amount of \$770.00 is enclosed.

01/28/2004 CCHAU1 00000050 10053712 770.00 0P  
01 FC:1801

**REQUEST FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for the continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.



**23850**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

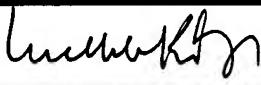
**PAGE 2**

Atty Docket No.

**020076**

**SIGNATURE BY APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name **William G. Kratz, Jr.** Registration No. **22,631 (atty/agent)**

Signature  Date **January 27, 2004**

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, MAIL STOP RCE, Washington, D.C. 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name

Signature



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

**YAMAUCHI, Tsunenori**

Group Art Unit: **2812**

Serial No.: **10/053,712**

Examiner: **C.W. Lattin**

Filed: **January 24, 2002**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: **4240**

For. **SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND METHOD  
FOR FABRICATING THE SAME**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: January 27, 2004

Sir:

Prior to action on the RCE filed herewith, please amend claims 1, 2, 13 and 15 as follows: